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Your essential daily news

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015

High 5°C/Low 1°C Sun and cloud



A member of the ice-making crew checks the thickness of the surface Sunday.

JEFF HARPER/METRO



## ICE, ICE BABY

New season at the Emera Oval opens on Monday **metroNEWS**

# Keep on dreaming, Halifax

## WEATHER

### No snow in forecast for Christmas Day



**Zane Woodford**  
Metro | Halifax

If you were dreaming of a white Christmas, you'd better wake up.

Environment Canada is forecasting sunny skies and double digit temperatures for the big day.

"Things are not looking up," said Environment Canada forecaster Jean-Marc Couturier on Sunday of the chances of a white Christmas for Halifax.

"Christmas Eve will be kind of wet and mild, but for Christmas Day, the rain will be passed and we'll be experiencing fair conditions with very mild temperatures."

Those temperatures, Couturier said, are expected to stay "well above normal" this week. The forecast for Christmas Day is 10 C, just three degrees shy

of the record high for Dec. 25 recorded in 1996. The average temperature for Christmas Day is zero.

The statistical probability of Halifax having a white Christmas — defined by Environment Canada as having two or more centimetres of snow on the ground — is 45 per cent.

The probability of having

**45%**

Probability of a white Christmas in Halifax over the last 20 years

what Environment Canada calls perfect Christmas weather — snow on the ground and falling from the sky — is 25 per cent. That last happened in 2013, when about a centimetre of snow fell on top of four centimetres already on the ground.

Environment Canada is forecasting a milder winter overall for Nova Scotia, with higher temperatures and less snow than last year.



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# I am the liquor: The Boys selling a taste of the Park

ALCOHOL

## Show-inspired booze hitting shelves in time for the holidays



**Rebecca Dingwell**  
 For Metro | Halifax

Fans of the Trailer Park Boys and whisky lovers alike can rejoice.

The stars of the Nova Scotia-based comedy show have teamed up with Dartmouth Spirits Inc. to put their very own liquor product on the market. Liquormen's Ol' Dirty Canadian Whisky has hit NSLC shelves in time for Christmas.

"The Trailer Park Boys thought it was a way to provide something for their fans," said Peter McCreath, managing director of Dartmouth Spirits Inc.

McCreath credits the group's widespread fame to their international comedy tours, as well as the rise of their show's popularity on Netflix.

"They just returned, a month or

so ago, from a tour in Europe," said McCreath. "They played to packed houses everywhere they went."

The product is a logical extension, McCreath explained, since the Trailer Park Boys characters are no strangers to booze.

"One of the characters is always carrying a bottle — why not make it one of their own?"

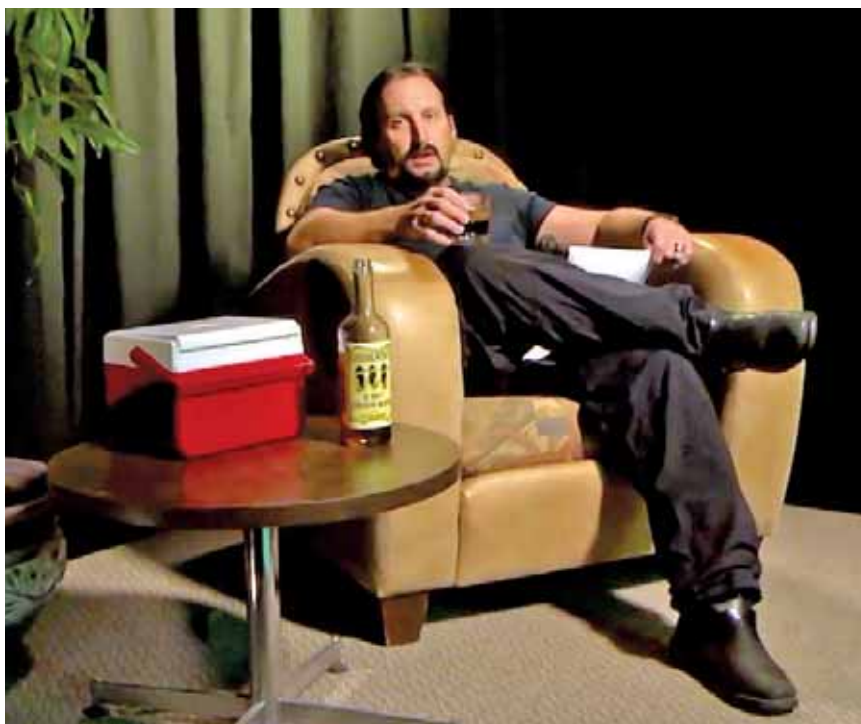
So far, the rye whisky is only available in Nova Scotia as well as Newfoundland and Labrador. The hope is that it will be all over Canada by spring.

According to McCreath, over 4,000 bottles of the whisky were sold in Newfoundland during their first six weeks on the market.

"If Newfoundland is any example, the demand in Nova Scotia is gonna be very large," said McCreath.

The whisky itself is made at a distillery in Alberta. They also use the services of Rock Spirits, a subsidiary of the Newfoundland Liquor Corporation — the only liquor corporation in Canada that runs its own bottling facility.

**Liquormen's Ol' Dirty Canadian Whisky.**  
 CONTRIBUTED



John Paul Tremblay, who plays Julian on Trailer Park Boys, enjoys some Liquormen's. CONTRIBUTED

"We aren't so much competing in the rye market as we are providing something for Trailer Park fans," said McCreath. "We may move on to other products as well."

The whisky is currently available at five locations across the province, includ-

ing Port of Wines in Halifax and NSLC's Tacoma Drive location in Dartmouth. By January, McCreath is expecting that number to increase.

"I'm particularly glad they got into some stores this weekend, because some people will see it as a nice Christmas gift."

**“It was a way to provide something for their fans.”**

Peter McCreath,  
 Dartmouth Spirits

ASSAULT

## Sword, knife fight puts man in hospital



**Philip Croucher**  
 Metro | Halifax

A Friday night fight in Halifax included both a knife and a sword.

Halifax Regional Police said they were called to such an encounter at 18 Forrest Hill Dr. in Clayton Park around 8 p.m.

Police said a dispute between two men saw one produce a sword and confront the other.

The other man produced a knife and the two had an "altercation." When police arrived only the man with the sword was at the scene. The other person, a 37-year-old man, was later located at the QEII hospital. The 30-year-old sword-wielding man was charged with aggravated assault, possession of a weapon and assault with a weapon. He will appear in court on Monday.



## DARTMOUTH

### Man facing gun charges

A Dartmouth man is facing charges after a gun was allegedly pointed at someone on Spring Garden Road. Police said just after 4:30 a.m. Saturday, a man, 25, called 911 to report the incident.

When police arrived, they found the suspect sitting in a parked vehicle with an imitation gun.

The suspect, 22, will appear in court Monday to face firearm offences. METRO

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## DOWNTOWN

# Wooden Monkey refutes rumours



**Haley Ryan**  
Metro | Halifax

Hey, Halifax: The Wooden Monkey is “not going anywhere.”

An attempt to rally support around businesses struggling near the Nova Centre site in downtown Halifax seems to have backfired on Wooden Monkey co-owner Lil MacPherson, who said people have been cancelling holiday parties and reservations assuming the place was closing.

“There was a big rumour going around that we’re closed, we didn’t make it with all the construction,” MacPherson said.

Last month, MacPherson spoke with Metro and other Halifax media outlets about ongoing concerns with construction and street closures around the downtown site impacting shoppers and diners during the important holiday season.

MacPherson said she overheard diners at the Dartmouth Wooden Monkey talking about the Halifax location being closed, while co-owner Christine Bower was fielding cancellations in Halifax.

“We’re not going anywhere ... Chris and I worked way too long and way too hard, and we’re too tough,” MacPherson said.

“We’re going to make it through, we have no intention on closing.”

MacPherson wanted to thank those people who have shown up over the last few weeks to specifically support the Halifax Wooden Monkey.



**People are still supporting us, and we’re here.**

Wooden Monkey co-owner Lil MacPherson

## CRIME

### Cash, drugs seized in raid of Lower Sackville home

Police say cash and drugs were seized after the search of a home in Lower Sackville.

The RCMP say they executed a search warrant at a house on Sackville Cross Road around 10:40 p.m. Friday.

Police say they seized cocaine, marijuana, drug packaging material and more than \$2,000 in cash.

Four people are now facing drug trafficking charges — men aged 44, 21 and 19, and a 21-year-old woman.

All four are due in court on Monday. METRO

### Drunk driver hits house

Halifax police say a drunk driver drove into the front porch of a house in Dartmouth early Saturday morning.

Police say at about 4:22 a.m., an officer saw a car run a stop sign at Thistle and Maple streets, and jump a curb. The vehicle hit a house in the 100 block of Thistle, along with two parked cars in the area.

The 20-year-old driver was arrested at the scene, and is set to appear in court at a later date charged with impaired driving, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, flight from police and property damage. METRO



Those heading to the skating oval will notice a new building near the Cogswell Street entrance that houses rental equipment, skate sharpeners, ice resurfacers, staff offices and public washrooms. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Oval open for season

## WINTER

## Lace up for a free public skate today



**Zane Woodford**  
Metro | Halifax

Dig out your skates — Halifax’s skating oval is expected to open on Monday.

City staff spent the weekend finishing up the ice-making process on the oval, and de-

pending on the weather, the ice surface was expected to open for the winter season with a free skate at 10 a.m.

Halifax active living manager John Henry said last week the city was hopeful for the Monday morning open.

“It looks like we have a good layer of ice, in terms of the base,” he said, adding that those who tend to the ice were worried about the rain and warm temperatures the city saw on Friday.

Workers could be seen at the oval Sunday checking the

ice thickness after two days of colder temperatures.

Those heading to the oval for the first time this season will notice the newly constructed building near the Cogswell Street entrance that houses the ice resurfacers, equipment rentals, skate sharpeners and sanitizers, staff offices and public washrooms.

As in previous years, the city said visitors can use their own skates and helmets, or rent them for free there with a valid government-issued photo ID.

## + ONLINE

For the latest information and a schedule of events at the Oval, visit skatehrm.ca.

This year, the city will also be renting snowshoes for those who want to stay off the ice.

There will be a New Year’s Eve party at the Oval, with fireworks, free public skates, hot chocolate and more on the evening of Dec. 31.



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THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Union says layoffs ahead

CHRONICLE-HERALD

### Management, newsroom workers fail to reach new deal

Talks have broken down between managers and unionized newsroom workers at The Chronicle-Herald.

Conciliation ended Friday after just two days at the table, according to a news release issued Sunday by the Halifax Typographical Union, which represents 61 newsroom staff. "We believe that the company, from the beginning, intended to lock us out," Local 30130 of CWA Canada president Ingrid Bulmer said in the news release, which added a lockout could happen before the end of January.

The company's concessionary demands include cutting salaries, increasing hours, reducing pension benefits, and

### EARLIER CUTS

#### Newsroom positions

The Chronicle-Herald eliminated 17 newsroom position through buyouts and layoffs about a year ago, on top of additional cuts in March 2009 during the recession.

allowing any future layoffs to be at the discretion of management rather than by seniority, according to the release.

The company also wants to get rid of the contract clause that says "the company at all times recognizes the principle of equal pay for equal work for male and female employees," the news release said.

"The company has informed us that 30 per cent of our newsroom staff will be laid off even if we were to accept all of its concessionary proposals," Bulmer said in the news release.

METRO STAFF

### COURT

## Oland's family shocked by guilty verdict

Dennis Oland collapsed into a chair, sobbing uncontrollably, as a New Brunswick jury found him guilty of second-degree murder in the death of his father, prominent businessman Richard Oland.

Oland began crying and saying, "Oh my god" after the verdict was read Saturday in a Saint John court. He also could be heard saying, "My children."

Family members cried and hugged each other, and many

appeared to be in disbelief with the verdict, which came after 30 hours of deliberations.

A statement from Oland's mother Connie said the family was shocked by the outcome.

Family members didn't speak as they left the court. Dennis Oland's wife Lisa carried his overcoat as she walked

to a waiting vehicle.

Crown Prosecutor P.J. Veniot made a brief statement thanking the jurors, but he declined to take any questions from reporters.

The trial, which began in September, heard from nearly 50 witnesses and revealed a case built on

largely circumstantial evidence.

Richard Oland's body was found face down in a pool of blood in his Saint John office on July 7, 2011. He had suffered 45 blunt and sharp force blows to his head, neck and hands. No weapon was ever found.

The Olands are an establishment family in the history of the Maritimes, having founded Moosehead Breweries. Richard Oland left the family business in 1981. THE CANADIAN PRESS

45

The number of blunt and sharp force blows on Richard Oland's head, neck and hands.

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Helo, a 10-week-old German shepherd, has just started training in Nova Scotia with Const. Tim Reid. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

# Grooming new 'partner for life'

## POLICE DOGS

### RCMP to showcase new recruits over social media



**Haley Ryan**  
Metro | Halifax

Nova Scotians can now follow Mountie recruits as they train for the job — at least the furry ones.

On Friday, the Nova Scotia RCMP introduced two 10-week old German shepherd puppies from the same litter, named

Helo (pronounced hee-low) and Hamer (hammer).

"Just looking at him, I mean what better job could you have," said Const. Richard Bushey with a smile as he nodded towards Hamer nibbling on a leash.

Both Bushey and Const. Tim Reid with Helo will train the dogs for about 12 months in the Police Dog Service puppy program on their own time as their "quarry," an officer hoping to eventually become a dog handler.

The officers are also training, in a way, since the program is very competitive, with about eight officers accepted every year.

"I think it's the best job in

the RCMP, that you get to come to work with a dog and a partner for life," Bushey said.

"I'll do whatever it takes to have that relationship."

Helo and Hamer were born Oct. 4 at the RCMP Police Dog Service Training Centre in Alberta and have been in Nova

Scotia for the past three weeks.

When the brothers reunited Friday morning at the RCMP headquarters in Dartmouth, Helo excitedly barked and barked at Hamer, who calmly sat next to Bushey as media with cameras and phones came closer.

In training, Bushey said he gets up early to take Hamer for runs before sometimes bringing him along on a regular shift to get him used to people, sirens, school kids, different crime scenes, other animals — and stairs.

"To jump up on things and not to be afraid of anything that a typical house pet might be," Reid added.

## + UPDATES

You can follow @RCMPNS on Twitter or on Facebook, search Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Nova Scotia, to get updates on the progress of Helo and Hamer.



Helo and Hamer are shown off for the media. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

As they get older, Reid said, they will be trained to track by using food just 10 metres away while working up to tracking human scent 10 kilometres through woods and fields.



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# Inside official residences

## HERITAGE

### The stories behind some of Canada's historic homes

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's first post-election decision was to leave 24 Sussex Drive vacant so that the aging official residence in Ottawa can undergo critical renovations.

It's a historic home — all the more so because Trudeau grew up there and will likely move back in before the end of his four-year term. But it is just one of the nation's official residences, each of which holds pieces of Canada's heritage.

#### 1 Government House

St. John's  
One of the oldest official residences in Canada, the two-storey red sandstone building was built for Sir Thomas Cochrane, as a condition of his appointment as Governor of Newfoundland. Twenty-eight masons and 25 carpenters brought in from Scotland built the structure be-



**Government House in St. John's.** CONTRIBUTED

tween 1827 and 1831. Government House has served as the home of the province's lieutenant governor since the province became a part of Canada in 1949. It cost \$746,800 to run in 2013-14.

SOURCE: 2014 NEWFOUNDLAND BUDGET

#### 2 Government House

Victoria, B.C.  
The current building opened in 1959 after fires destroyed the two previous residences of the province's lieutenant governors in 1899 and 1957. The estate has served as the home of the Queen's representative since B.C. joined confederation



**Victoria's Government House** CONTRIBUTED

in 1871. On the grounds is a bronze statue of Sir James Douglas, considered the founder of B.C., and Hosaqami, a 24-foot totem pole originally commissioned to celebrate the relationship between the Canadian and British navies. Total annual cost last year was \$1.328 million.

SOURCE: 2014 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### 3 La Citadelle

Quebec City  
Few of Canada's official residences better embody the occupant's official symbolic function than La Citadelle, the



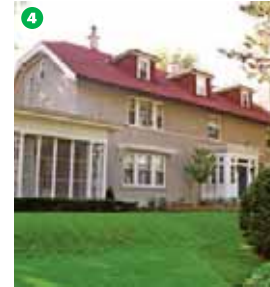
**Gov.-Gen. David Johnston at La Citadelle.** CONTRIBUTED

star-shaped military fortress built between 1820 and 1832. The Governor General of Canada, whose primary residence is Rideau Hall in Ottawa, has occupied a residence and a wing of offices on the grounds of the base since 1872 when Lord Dufferin occupied the post. Costs for 2014 to 2015 totalled \$746,122.

SOURCE: PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA

#### 4 Stornoway

Ottawa  
The official residence of the Leader of the Official Opposition, Stornoway was built



**Stornoway** COLOURPIX.COM/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

in 1913. During the Second World War when it served as the home of the Dutch heir to the throne, Princess Juliana and her family, who went into exile after the Nazi invasion of 1940. After the war, in 1946, Conservative Senator Grattan O'Leary began fundraising for a trust that would buy and maintain a residence for the federal opposition leader. The owners made Stornoway available for \$55,000. It was taken over by the federal government in 1970 and has annual costs of \$54,715.

SOURCE: NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION  
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## IN BRIEF

### Defence minister visits Iraq, reports say

Canada's defence minister is visiting Iraq, just days after Canadian military forces helped push back a major Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) offensive on Thursday.

Kurdish media are reporting that Harjit Sajjan spent Sunday in the town of Irbil in a visit not announced by the Canadian government in advance. Images show Sajjan meeting with Kurdish officials in Irbil. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### No UN Security Council seat for Canada just yet

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has all but ruled out a return for Canada to the powerful United Nations Security Council any time before 2019.

That's because other western European countries in the UN group to which Canada belongs have declared their intentions to run, effectively filling up the ballot up to 2020 and beyond.

Canada lost loss a seat on the council in 2010 to Portugal. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# The rising flow of Syrian refugees

With hundreds of thousands killed, millions internally displaced and millions more fleeing war-torn Syria, the mounting refugee crisis has been called the largest in recent history. But who is most likely to flee their home country? And where are they going instead? The numbers tell a harrowing tale.

METRO

## LATE NEWS

Canada's minister of immigration and citizenship, John McCallum, says the country's resettlement program for Syrian refugees could double its intake by the end of 2016 to 50,000.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN NUMBERS

Syrian refugees

## 4,390,439

European applications

Between 2011 and 2015

## 807,337

applications were filed

Serbia and Germany received

## 57%

of applications

Sweden, Hungary, Austria, Netherlands and Bulgaria received

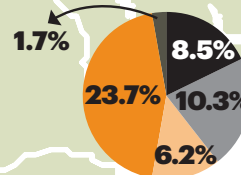
## 31%

of applications

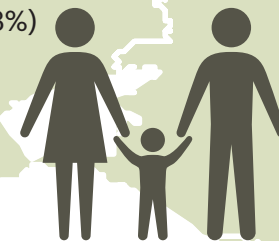
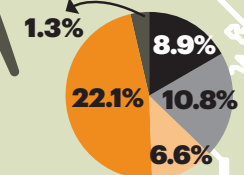
## DEMOGRAPHICS

0-4 5-11 12-17 18-59 60+

Female refugees (50.3%)



Male refugees (49.7%)



SOURCE: UNHCR.ORG



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Weeknights at 6 Hannah counts down the HOTTEST songs of the day.

### POPSIX@6 LAST NIGHT:

- 6 Justin Bieber  
Sorry
- 5 One Direction  
Perfect
- 4 Adele  
Hello
- 3 Fetty Wap ft Remmy Boyz  
679
- 2 Shawn Mendes ft Camila Cabello  
I Know What You Did Last Summer
- 1 Classified ft Snoop Dogg  
No Pressure

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# Get to know Lolo



Lolo sings in the shower



Lolo presses snooze



Lolo makes navy and black look good



Lolo picks the window seat



Lolo plays board games



Lolo pays extra for guac



Talk to your doctor



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## INDIA

# Protesters decry release of gang rapist

A man convicted as a juvenile in the fatal 2012 gang rape of a young woman aboard a moving bus in India's capital ended his three-year term in a reform home Sunday, as angry protesters demanded that he remain in detention.

The man was short of his 18th birthday when he and five others brutally attacked the 23-year-old woman in a case that shocked India.

Several activists and polit-

icians have demanded that he not be released until it can be proven that he has been reformed.

On Friday, the Delhi High Court rejected a petition to extend the man's term. The man was moved Sunday from the reform home where he had been kept to a new home under the care of a children's rights group.

In December of 2012, the woman and a male friend were returning home from seeing a



Students shout slogans in protest against the juvenile's release. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

movie when they were tricked by the attackers into getting on the bus, which the men had taken out for a joyride.

The attackers beat the victim's friend and raped her. They penetrated her with a rod, leaving severe injuries that led to her death two weeks later.

The case ignited a debate about whether minors who commit especially horrific crimes should be tried as adults.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Passengers who were on board the Air France plane forced to land in Mombasa, Kenya, react after they were officially informed of the bomb scare. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Bomb scare grounds jet

## SAFETY

### Fourth hoax in recent weeks for Air France

A fake explosive rigged with cardboard, sheets of paper and a household timer forced an Air France flight carrying 459 passengers and 14 crew members into an emergency landing in Kenya on Sunday, sending passengers down emergency slides in what the airline's CEO said was the fourth bomb hoax against the airline in recent weeks.

The Boeing 777 was heading to Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris from the island of Mauritius when its pilots requested an emergency landing early Sunday at Kenya's coastal city of Mombasa.

The homemade apparatus was discovered at midnight hidden in a washroom cabinet

where it was placed during the approximately 11-hour flight, said the airline's CEO, Frederic Gagey.

He congratulated the crew for their cool-headed reaction. Passengers were also impressed. "They keep everybody calm. We did not know what was happening," said Benoit Lucchini.

Six passengers were being questioned, including the person who informed the crew about the device, said a Kenyan police official.

Gagey decried the hoaxes.

**"We find this behaviour stupid, damaging and unacceptable."**

Frederic Gagey,  
Air France CEO

"This is behaviour that for me is criminal. It sows doubt, it disrupts our operations, it inconveniences passengers, and obviously each time we can get information about those who

are responsible for these extremely bad jokes, pardon the expression, we file a legal complaint," Gagey said. "We find this behaviour stupid, damaging and unacceptable." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Christmas Discounters

4 Days of Great Savings December 21st - 24th

### WE SELL EVERYTHING... WHO KNEW?

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Check Out These DOOR CRASHERS!

<p><b>Monday, Dec 21st:</b></p> <p><b>All Printed Quilts</b> queen/king <b>Today Only \$19.95</b> <span style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">Save 80%</span> <small>Compare at \$99.99 &amp; up</small></p>	<p><b>Tuesday, Dec 22nd:</b></p> <p><b>ALL TOYS 20% OFF our lowest price</b> Includes Shopkins, Star Wars, Minions, Frozen &amp; MORE!</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, Dec 23rd:</b></p> <p><b>50% OFF our lowest price</b> on ALL Christmas Giftware, decorations, lighting &amp; MORE! *excludes candy &amp; gift wrap</p>
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### THIS WEEK'S DEALS!

<p><b>Star Mixed Nuts</b> 226g tin <b>ONLY \$1.88</b>ea</p> <p><b>Star Peanuts</b> 198g tin <b>ONLY \$1.44</b>ea</p>	<p><b>ALL Jewellery &amp; Watches</b> <b>20% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>	<p><b>ALL Picture Frames</b> <b>40% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>
<p><b>ALL Candles</b> <b>30% OFF</b> our lowest price <small>*excludes boxed candle sets</small></p>	<p><b>ALL Puzzles</b> <b>20% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>	<p><b>Curtains &amp; Curtain Rod Accessories</b> <b>25% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>
<p><b>ALL Winter Wear</b> hats, gloves, scarves &amp; MORE! <b>20% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>	<p><b>Laura Secord Gift Sets</b> assorted <b>30% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>	<p><b>ALL Camo</b> includes sunshades, floor mats, ATV covers &amp; steering wheel covers <b>60% OFF</b> our lowest price</p>

### LOTS OF GREAT GIFT IDEAS!

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Specials are also available at Truro, Amherst & Bridgewater locations

### IN BRIEF

#### Spain's ruling party wins

An exit poll projects that Spain's ruling Popular Party has won the general election but is shy of the votes it needs for a majority. A poll for the state-owned RTVE channel gave the Popular Party 26.8 per cent of the vote. Turnout was 58.4 per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Southern China landslide leaves 27 people missing

A landslide at an industrial park in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen on Sunday buried buildings and left 27 people missing, authorities said. Seven people were rescued, but 21 men and six women were unaccounted for. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



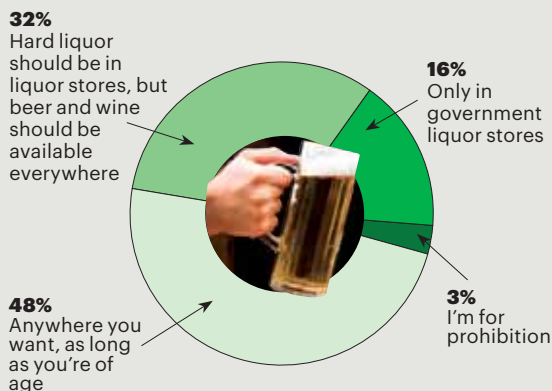
## Metro MONDAY POLL

# Liberalizing liquor

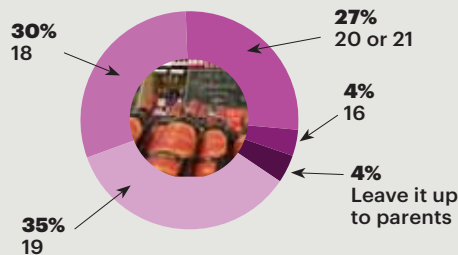
Visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)  
every Friday to  
have your say.

**In the past week**, Ontario took a few cautious steps towards liberalizing alcohol sales in the province; allowing beer to be sold in a few grocery stores. But worries about the effect of alcohol on public morals have persisted for a century or more, and the Ontario Public Service Employees' Union has expressed concerns that easily available beer and wine will increase violence against women. We asked our readers if they want to be able to buy alcohol anywhere, or if they're for temperance or even T-total prohibition.

### 1 Where should you be allowed to buy alcohol?



### 2 What should the drinking age be?



### 3 What are your concerns about alcohol being sold in commercial stores?

**32%** It will be easier for minors to get alcohol  
**15%** It will reduce tax revenue  
**15%** It will be hard for people who are trying to stay sober  
**10%** It will increase violence or crime  
**28%** Other

It should be sold wherever it can be, but I am in favour of stricter warning labels about the health effects.

The system works well already. Why the need for change?

If teenagers want booze, they'll get booze. We did!

The store could be accountable for giving alcohol to someone who is underage or already inebriated.

WE ASKED Metro readers

## metroview

# The remedy for Christmas heartbreak is Christmas itself



**Michael Coren**  
For Metro

In a handful of anticipation-soaked days, those of who are Christian will celebrate the birth of the Son of God. Whether it was in a stable and precisely when it happened is not the point. No, the first issue is that for those of who believe, the birth of Christ changed everything. The second is what should that mean for those who aren't Christian?

It breaks my heart that Christians are so often perceived — entirely understandably — not as followers of the Prince of Peace and He who personified love but as angry reactionaries obsessed with right-wing politics and obscure issues rather than with spreading joy.

Breaks my heart when I see Republican candidates, most of them insisting they are devout Christians, boasting how many bombs they will drop, how many people they will kill and dismissing child casualties as collateral damage.

Breaks my heart when I see Canadian Christians shouting hysterically about abortion, spreading falsehoods about vitally necessary sex educa-

tion curricula and opposing gay equality. By the way, some of the finest Christians I have ever met have been gay, because they have felt the sting of persecution.

They have shared in Christ's torment.

Breaks my heart when I hear extreme Christian leaders arguing that refugees should be blocked from entering North America, claiming that social justice and redistribution of wealth have nothing to do with the faith or demanding less gun control and more expenditure on the military.

If it breaks this pathetic heart, what does it do to He whose birth we are about to remember, and who demanded that we turn the other cheek, love our enemy and embrace our oppressor?

Jesus turned the world upside down. In defeat is victory, in poverty is wealth, in suffering is contentment and in humility is glory. His words were so transforming that they make the manifestos of the secular revolutionaries appear placid and passive.

For the non-Christian, Christmas is a time to reboot, relax, embrace family, perhaps consider what you believe — or don't believe — through the prism of this winter festival. Whatever your religion or lack of it, the sense of goodwill is impossible to avoid, and that's sparkling in its rarity. For me, however, I will bend the knee, pray thanks and ask forgiveness. My heart may be broken, but there is one who can fix it. For all of us. Merry Christmas.

# Anti-union law will not fix our revenue problem

## HALIFAX MATTERS

**Stephen Kimber**



Premier Stephen McNeil says Nova Scotia's 75,000 public-sector workers are welcome to bargain collectively — so long as they don't expect to negotiate wages. The government has determined those.

Working conditions? Sure. Negotiate away, but not as part of the collective bargaining process. And since they won't be part of

the contract, don't expect the government to pay attention.

Of course, if the workers are unhappy with what the government — in its infinite wisdom — has decided is their fair wage and generous working conditions, they can request arbitration. Unless, of course, they're doctors, who no longer have that right. Or everyone else, who has the right to arbitration but only if the arbitrator promises not to arbitrate.

But not to worry. The government says it doesn't plan to implement Bill 148 — also known as the Public Service Sustainability Act — if its workers obey each and all of its provisions anyway. Otherwise...

Welcome to the un-wonderfully wacky world of public-sector collective bargaining, Stephen McNeil-style.

Bill 148 — the law the government has said it doesn't plan to proclaim, but was so desperate to ram through the legislature it forced MLAs to pull pre-Christmas all-nighters, eschewed public input and even managed to gratuitously insult a deaf Nova Scotian in the process — will likely eventually end up on the judicial garbage heap as yet another violation of citizens' charter rights to collective bargaining.

But the courts won't rule until later, until after the McNeil government has squeezed the last drop of water — and publicity — from the stone of public sector wages in order to create its faux balanced budget, after which it will declare victory and launch its re-election campaign.

Even though the province's own recent fiscal

update makes clear our problem is declining revenues rather than escalating expenses, the government seems obsessed with reducing revenues while slashing expenses.

To save the \$25 million the province's film tax credit cost, for example, the government gutted an entire industry that contributed far more than it cost. Ah, well...

And now it is hell-bent on strangling a public sector that pays taxes, buys houses, cars, goods, services and contributes to society.

If we're not careful, this government will save us to death.

**Stephen Kimber** is a professor of journalism at the University of King's College in Halifax and an award-winning writer, editor and broadcaster. Halifax Matters runs every Monday.

**Whatever your religion or lack of it, the sense of goodwill is impossible to avoid.**

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## PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan



**If we're not careful, this government will save us to death.**



## When retail therapy becomes addiction

### SHOP TILL YOU DROP

### Some brains hard-wired for the ka-ching, research shows

Lisa Monks would shop mostly when she felt lonely. "It filled that void," she says. Instead of sitting at home alone and miserable, she would hit the malls and chat up friendly sales clerks. "It was an escape from reality," she says. Finding that perfect outfit that made her feel pretty would make her euphoric. "I'd be excited and couldn't wait to wear it," the 49-year-old says. "I became addicted to the feeling."

But the bliss of buying didn't last for long. "There was buyer's remorse when I came home and looked at all the dresses in my closet. I'd feel guilty," Monks says.

Shopping addiction is a serious problem in North America, according to consumer psychologist Scott Rick at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business. Some psychologists estimate the condition occurs in 6 per cent of the population — and it's probably on the rise, affecting slightly more women than men, he says.

"It's never been easier to shop," he says.

Online stores are always open. People shop on their mobile phones while on the GO Train. And those 1-800 numbers are always beckoning ... not to mention the sales.

Luckily, scientists are beginning to decode the disorder. The brains of compulsive shoppers are wired differently than most people's, says neuroscientist Joseph Ciorciari, acting director of the Brain and Psychological Sciences Department of Swinburne University of Technology in Australia.

In a study published last year, Ciorciari and colleagues attached compulsive buyers and normal consumers to brain scanning (EEG) machines while they "shopped" for virtual items.

The study shows that compulsive shopping can't be dismissed as innocent "retail therapy." The brains of shopping addicts are wired for the hunt. "They always want to have this feel-good sentiment," says Ciorciari. And that constant craving is a hallmark of addiction.

He found that the pleasure pathways in the brain lit up when they made purchases. The feel-good chemical dopa-

**MAXED OUT**  
Lisa Monks' life spiralled downhill with each new purchase. "The harder I try and nothing is working, the more I feel I deserve to have nice stuff," she says.



Lisa Monks is a shopaholic who has worked past her retail addiction. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

mine, which is released in these reward circuits in response to good sex or a tasty meal, counteracts sadness and gives you the illusion of control when you're feeling lost.

The problem is that the excitement of buying doesn't

last. Shoppers experience withdrawal symptoms just like any other addicts. Within minutes of spending, they regret their purchases. "This drives even more compulsive behaviour," says Samuel Waldner, an addictions counsellor in private

practice in Toronto. Eventually this repetitive destructive pattern can lead to bankruptcy, broken relationships, and even suicide, he says.

Monks maxed out the "insanely high" limit on her credit card. She alienated her boy-

friend, who disapproved of the buying. It wasn't until her father died and she had to help her aging mother pay off her mortgage that reality set in. Monks realized she needed help.

Therapists treating shopping addiction focus clients' awareness on the toll of purchases. Waldner helps clients stop spending by giving them lists of their behaviour's bad effects that they can pull out when temptation strikes.

He encourages clients to throw themselves into gratifying artistic pursuits — painting, writing or photography — as substitutes.

Monks realized she'd have to find creative alternatives to feel good. She began reading books, worked out until she was exhausted and spent more time hanging out with her friends. She wrote a book about relationships, and has recently landed a blog on the Huffington Post.

While she still occasionally splurges on a dress, these lapses are only momentary. "Shopping doesn't make me happy," she says. "It's a good feeling when you've done something positive and you're working towards a goal," says Monks.

Best of all, she's out of debt and has faith in the future. "For the first time I feel like I have hope," she says.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### CO-PARENTING

## Post-split, the best gift for kids is a peaceful holiday



Don't expect too much too soon in terms of everyone spending holiday time together, a family mediator says. ISTOCK

This is the first holiday season since Danielle Bileski-Leonard and her husband separated. But she and her ex — who have taken a co-operative approach during a difficult period — aren't squabbling over the big day.

"We want to keep our Christmas morning tradition intact even though our children now float between two households. This means that my ex-husband will join me and our three boys early Christmas morning to open gifts and enjoy one another's company," says Bileski-Leonard.

But even though the two are co-parenting well together, it's still a big emotional adjustment.

"There are moments I feel sadness when I consider that this holiday season just won't

have the same warmth and joy as past Christmases now that our family is no longer intact," she says. "That's when I have to remind myself that our kids still experience the same love they did before my husband and I separated. It is out of this love that we can build new traditions, shed the past and embrace a bright new future."

Psychotherapist Kelly Flannigan-Bos says because the holidays are steeped in expectation even at the best of times, managing those is particularly tricky if a marriage has just ended.

"If you're used to being together as a family unit on those days, the thought of not being with your child on Christmas Eve or on Hanukkah can be really devastating or stressful," she says. "You may not want to

give it up at all. But probably the other parent doesn't either."

If the relationship with your ex is quite tense or acrimonious, you're going to have to decide what you can let go of for the sake of the kids. "What actually needs to be fought over and what is getting your anger out over another issue?"

Flannigan-Bos says it may be more enjoyable to celebrate on the 20th with no stress than in a tense, time-pressed way on the 25th.

Family mediator Rosanna Breitman says it's important to be sensitive to the fact that the first post-separation holiday can be much more difficult for some family members than others. "Don't expect too much too soon in terms of everyone spending holiday time together," Breitman says.

"If the kids will be dividing their time between their parents' homes, it's essential to manage expectations and logistics in advance," she says. This includes deciding who will have the kids on which days, when transitions occur and whose responsibility the transitions will be.

"Make sure the kids are aware of the plans in advance so that they aren't feeling anxious about where they will be at any given time," Breitman adds.

"Remember that the greatest gift you can give your kids is that of a peaceful and worry-free holiday. Be respectful towards one another, don't start fights in front of the children and don't put the other parent down or use the kids as go-betweens," says Breitman.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### + ME TIME

Breitman recommends that parents plan enjoyable activities for the times when they're not going to be with the kids. "Give yourself permission to have fun and enjoy some adult time without guilt, sadness or jealousy of the fun the kids are having without you."

Flannigan-Bos adds that it's important to have someone to talk to leading up to and during the season, such as a supportive friend or a therapist. "Then it's just a matter of taking it moment by moment, breathing, letting go and thinking before you speak."



JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

# Jonesing for Jessica's soul

**THE SHOW:** Jessica Jones (Netflix) Season 1 Episode 2  
**THE MOMENT:** The Smile

Secret superhero-turned-private eye Jessica Jones (Krysten Ritter) has a confession to make. She's been sleeping with her handsome neighbourhood bartender, Luke Cage (Mike Colter). But tonight she has to tell him the truth: She's also been tailing him for a client. They face one another in his dimly lit bar.

"So the night you came to my place, that was part of this job?" he asks, angry and hurt. "I shouldn't have done that," she replies, looking at him steadily.

"Because it's messed up? Or because you got caught?" he asks.

"Both," she answers. "Get out of here," he growls. "Stay the hell away from me." She wants to say more. But she turns on her heel and goes.

Ritter's delivery of that single syllable, "Both," is an example of what makes her, and this show, so terrific. She says it with a small smile. It's just a flash, but it communicates volumes: She's embarrassed



Krysten Ritter as the eponymous Jessica Jones and Mike Colter as Luke Cage. CONTRIBUTED

and sheepish. She's trying to appear tough. She likes him, and she likes him for asking the question. But if you blink, you miss it all.

Part of the joy of watching a hard-boiled character is catching the tiny moments when

she cracks and let you in, and Ritter is a genius at that.

Jessica's superpowers don't make her invulnerable; they simply mean we don't have to worry about her body as she prowls the back alleys of New York's gritty Hell's

Kitchen. But we worry about her soul, because Ritter makes us want to.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

## RECORD BREAKERS

# Latest Star Wars a Force at box office

To say that the force is strong with this one isn't nearly enough.

Studio estimates on Sunday say Star Wars: The Force Awakens brought in a galactic \$238 million over the weekend, making it the biggest North American debut of all time.

The Walt Disney Co. earnings destroy the previous opening record set by Jurassic World, which drew \$208.8 million this summer.

A few other movies tried to compete against J.J. Abrams' seventh chapter in George Lucas' space saga.

Almost a galaxy away, the animated Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip came in second with \$14.4 million.

In third place, Tina Fey and Amy Poehler's comedy Sisters earned an estimated \$13.42 million. A whopping 79 per cent of audiences were female for the R-rated comedy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**\$120.5 M**

Estimated amount the Walt Disney Co. said Star Wars: The Force Awakens made from Thursday night previews and opening day Friday.



The Force Awakens sets an opening day record. CONTRIBUTED

## GOSSIP AMBER'S NATURAL ASSETS, TINA'S PAST

### Rose says ass real

Amber Rose hears all that noise you're making about photos of her in tights that hint at some padding on her infamous rear.

"LOL, I am not wearing booty pads! Damn, y'all all in my ass doe," she wrote on Instagram.

"It's a full-body trainer that has thick lining in it for women's problem areas. I wear it when I work out and it keeps my skin tight and makes me sweat more. I would tell y'all where I got it but I'm making my own MUVA, one for u ladies to enjoy. You know

I look out for my girls." NED EHRBAR/ FOR METRO



### Fey was a mean girl

Watching Mean Girls you might think Tina Fey became an expert in mean girl behaviour by being on the receiving end of it. But you would be wrong. It turns out that Fey herself was a mean girl. Can you believe

it? "I admit it openly," she tells the Edit. "That was a disease that had to be conquered. It's a bad coping mechanism.... If I meet a girl of 14 or 15 today who is that kind of girl, I am secretly, in my body, afraid. Even though I'm 45."

She seems to be contrite,

but still, this feels like a betrayal. NED EHRBAR/ FOR METRO



## LOVE GAME

# Tyga is in trouble over Instagram rumours

Ned Ehrbar  
Metro | Hollywood



Kylie Jenner is reportedly peeved at on-again, off-again rapper boyfriend Tyga after catching him swapping texts with a female Instagram user. Yikes.

And she did not take the revelation well, according to OK! Magazine.

"He broke down in tears and begged Kylie to tell him the truth about where they stand.

Because he has no idea," a source says.

"In the space of a week she's dumped him, got back

with him, told the world they're getting married and then decided to 'cool things off' and threw him out of her house. He's really, really scared because she totally funds him and he needs the cash bad.

"Some of his friends, including Blac Chyna, are convinced he's being toyed with for storylines on the show. He's in a whole world of paranoia right now, especially after hearing that her mom wants him out and has been showing her pictures of other guys to date."

Oh right.

Kris Kardashian is involved, so this is going to get super-classy.



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Sidney Crosby is dealing with a lower-body injury and could miss Pittsburgh's game Monday night against Columbus

# etrsports

QMJHL

## Mooseheads swap Fitzgerald on opening day of trade window



**Kristen Lipscombe**  
Metro | Halifax

Halifax Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell is the first to admit it's tough to let go of good players — and good guys — like defenceman Cavan Fitzgerald.

But at the top levels hockey has to offer, it's not just a game — it's a business.

Fitzgerald was the first player to be dealt by the Mooseheads during the QMJHL's mid-season trade period. The 19-year-old San Jose Sharks prospect went on opening day, Saturday, to the Shawinigan Cataractes. In return, the Herd get 16-year-old blueliner Jocktan Chainey and a 2016 third-round draft pick.

"We have to make some tough decisions," Russell said by phone Sunday. "And one of those decisions was moving a quality player, a quality person, like Cavan."

Russell said it's all about "improving our organization"

## + SCHEDULE

The Mooseheads are on their holiday break until Dec. 28 when they host the Moncton Wildcats at 7 p.m. They then travel to Sydney on Dec. 29 to face off against the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles, again at 7 p.m.

in the long run.

"If you look at our lineup, we've got 16 players that have one year of experience or less, so we've got a young hockey team," Russell said.

"So, we saw an opportunity where we could get connected with a young hockey player ... that we really liked last year, and give Cavan an opportunity to go to a contending hockey team."

The Cataractes are currently in second place of the East Division and sixth overall in the league standings. The Mooseheads are fifth (out of six teams) in the Maritimes division and in 15th place (of 18 teams) overall.

"It's a good move for him, and a good move for the organization," Russell said, pointing out it's comparable to another Mooseheads move at this time last year, which sent veteran



Veteran defenceman Cavan Fitzgerald was traded by the Halifax Mooseheads on the opening day of the QMJHL's mid-season trade period. JEFF HARPER/METRO

defenceman Matt Murphy and star goaltender Zach Fucale to the Quebec Remparts.

As for the incoming Herd member, Russell is looking forward to seeing what rookie D-man Chainey will bring to the team, both on and off the ice.

"He doesn't have any holes in his game," Russell said. "He's only 16, but he's a big, strong defenceman."

As for speculation on other potential mid-season trades, the Moose GM wasn't giving away any details on deals currently

under discussion.

The rumour mill suggests Halifax captain Timo Meier may be on the table and, since he's away with the Swiss under-20 team in preparation for the world juniors, may have played his last game wearing the green and red.

Other Herd veterans may also be up for grabs, from Toronto Maple Leafs prospect Cody Donaghey to leading scorer Danny Moynihan.

"Anything's possible," is all Russell would say.

"That could be the only trade. There's always lots of talk. Sometimes things surprise us, so it's too hard to predict what will happen over the next couple of weeks."

As for bidding adieu to Fitzgerald, "it's business, but it's tough," the GM said.

"Cavan is an incredible young man; everybody loves him on the team; he's respected by everyone," Russell said.

"He's just a nice, quiet gentleman, and he's a heck of a hockey player."

NBL CANADA PRE-SEASON

## Canes pick up pair of victories

The Halifax Hurricanes are already picking up speed — and their first regular season in the National Basketball League of Canada hasn't even started yet.

The Hurricanes claimed two exhibition wins over the weekend, edging the P.E.I. Storm 106-103 on Friday, during an NBL Canada showcase held in expansion city Sydney, followed by a 110-91 win Saturday over the Moncton Miracles on home court at the Scotiabank Centre.

On Saturday, power forward Tony Criswell led the Canes with 20 points, while forward Kyle Hunt put up 16 points and pulled down 10 rebounds.

"Halifax has always had great fans; hopefully they liked what they saw tonight," basketball operations general manager Andre Levingston said in a news release. "It's a new organization and a new franchise."

Levingston was the owner and founder of former NBL Canada franchise the Halifax Rainmen, which declared bankruptcy over the summer after a controversial season. The new Hurricanes franchise, made possible by local business investors, has yet to finalize its roster, but Levingston said he's "excited about the level of the guys."

The Hurricanes get started for real on Saturday, when they host the Miracles again in their first-ever regular season game.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

## For him to go to a good organization, a good hockey team, that's got a chance to win ... It's a good move for his career.

Mooseheads GM Cam Russell on trading defenceman Cavan Fitzgerald

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# Shadow of a doubt in Panthers' latest W

NFL

## Carolina goes 14-0 as early lead holds vs. New York rally

After one of the strangest and nastiest games this NFL season, Cam Newton had an odd feeling.

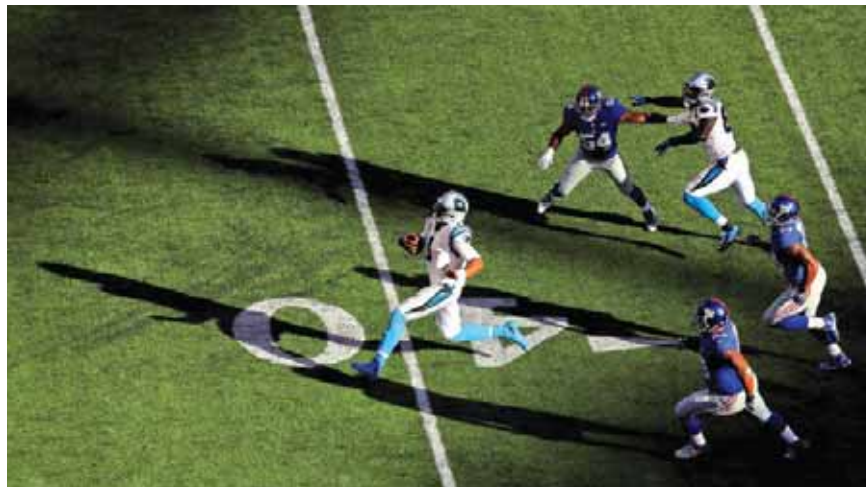
His Carolina Panthers had just shrugged off a record-tying Giants comeback to remain perfect with a wild 38-35 victory Sunday. Newton, who threw for five touchdowns to further state his case as NFL MVP wasn't quite sure what he'd just been through.

"It was kind of a weird feeling in that locker room, and I'm still feeling kind of weird, but not enough to (not) celebrate," said Newton, who also rushed for 100 yards. "We're just trying to find a way to get victories."

New York tied the score after trailing by 28 points in the third quarter, but the Panthers got to 14-0 on Graham Gano's 43-yard field goal as time expired.

It was Carolina's 18th straight regular-season win. Newton has thrown for 19 touchdowns in the last five games and a career-best 33 in this so far special season.

It looked oh so easy



Carolina quarterback Cam Newton runs the ball against the Giants on Sunday in East Rutherford, N.J. AL BELLO/GETTY IMAGES

### SUNDAY At New York



when Carolina led 35-7 with 5:32 left in the third quarter. Then the Giants (6-8) matched San Francisco's 28-point rally — from the same score — against New Orleans in 1980.

One big difference: The 49ers won that game in overtime. The Giants trail Washington by one game in the NFC East, and have lost

in the final minutes six times.

Carolina visits Atlanta and hosts Tampa Bay to finish the schedule. All three previous NFL teams to reach 14-0 — Miami in 1972, New England in 2007 and Indianapolis in 2009 — made the Super Bowl. Only the Dolphins won the championship, though.

"These last two games are division opponents, and we'll be in a hostile environment in Atlanta," Newton added. "And we've got a tricky week with Christmas. We just have to find a way to keep moving ahead and make sure we stay on the right side of the pendulum."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### He's got the maturity of a little kid.

Carolina safety Josh Norman on Giants receiver Odell Beckham Jr., pictured. Beckham had multiple run-ins with the Panthers Sunday, including a vicious helmet-to-helmet hit on star cornerback Norman.

### + ELSEWHERE

#### Seahawks 30, Browns 13

Russell Wilson threw three touchdown passes, two to Doug Baldwin, and the Seattle Seahawks clinched a play-off spot for the fourth straight season with a home win over the Cleveland Browns.

#### Patriots 33, Titans 16

Tom Brady threw for two touchdowns to help New England hold onto the top spot in the AFC in a game that saw Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota knocked out of the game with a knee injury in the first half.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### WORLD JUNIORS

## Canada cuts four to finalize roster

Montreal Canadiens draft pick Noah Juulsen was among four cuts made by Hockey Canada on Sunday as it finalized its world junior roster in Finland.

Jeremy Lauzon of the QMJHL's Rouyn-Noranda Huskies was the other defenceman cut by Canada.

Jayce Hawryluk of the WHL's Brandon Wheat Kings and Nick Merkley of the Kelowna Rockets were also released by the team.

"We had a really good evaluation period in Toronto and Imatra, and were able to see how the players responded to different situations — from practices to games," said Scott Salmond, VP of hockey operations and na-

### + VS. CZECH REP.

Mackenzie Blackwood recorded the shutout as Canada blanked the Czech Republic 1-0 on Sunday in an exhibition play.

tional teams for Hockey Canada.

"These are never easy decisions, but we feel confident in the team we have and their ability to make the nation proud."

The Canadian roster features three goaltenders, including Calgary Flames draft pick Mason McDonald, MacKenzie Blackwood

of the OHL's Barrie Colts and Samuel Montembeault.

Defenceman Joe Hicketts is among those to make the team. He's one of four returnees from last year's team that won gold at the tournament held in Toronto and Montreal.

Toronto Maple Leafs prospect Mitch Marner is one of 13 forwards to make the team. Jake Virtanen, who was loaned to Canada from the Vancouver Canucks on Dec. 13, also made the team and is another returnee from last year.

The Canadians open on Boxing Day against the United States.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Noah Juulsen, drafted by the Canadiens in June, was sent home from Finland Sunday.

GETTY IMAGES FILES

## metro OBITUARIES

### WHITTLE, Dinah Louise



Age, 85 passed away peacefully on Dec 18, 2015 at Oakwood Terrace. Born in Nfld she was a daughter of the late Louis and Emma Kendall.

Dinah worked at the Grace Maternity Hospital for over 30 years. She was a lifelong member of the Salvation Army and served faithfully through the League of Mercy and the Home League and volunteered at the Salvation Army

Thrift store in Cole Harbour for many years after her retirement. She camped at Beech Brook Campground with her husband and children for over Thirty Years.

Besides her Loving husband Jesse she is survived by her sons; William (Joyce), Dartmouth, Edwin (Paul), Toronto; grandchildren, William, (Melanie) Collier, N.B., Christopher, Halifax, Stephanie (Phillip) Colley, Cole Harbour, Sherry Collier Halifax; 6 great grandchildren, and 1 great great grandchild; sisters, Dot Rowe, May Huelin, both of Brantford Ont., Sue Kendall (Richard), Halifax; brothers Gilbert (Rita), Lesley (Pauline) both of Brantford Ont; several nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents Dinah was pre deceased by her daughter Jessie Collier; sister Bessie Ayres.

Visitation will be held on Monday, December 21st, 2015 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Atlantic Funeral Homes, 771 main street, Dartmouth. A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, December 22nd, 2015 at 1 p.m. at the same location.

Donations in Dinah's memory may be made to the Oakwood Terrace Recreational Department or Salvation Army Community Church Barrington Street.

Family Flowers Only Please. To leave an online condolence please visit [www.atlanticfuneralhomes.com](http://www.atlanticfuneralhomes.com) (Dartmouth Chapel)



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# Watford wallops languid Liverpool

## BPL ROUNDUP

**Ighalo sinks  
Klopp's Reds  
as Swans and  
Hammers tie**

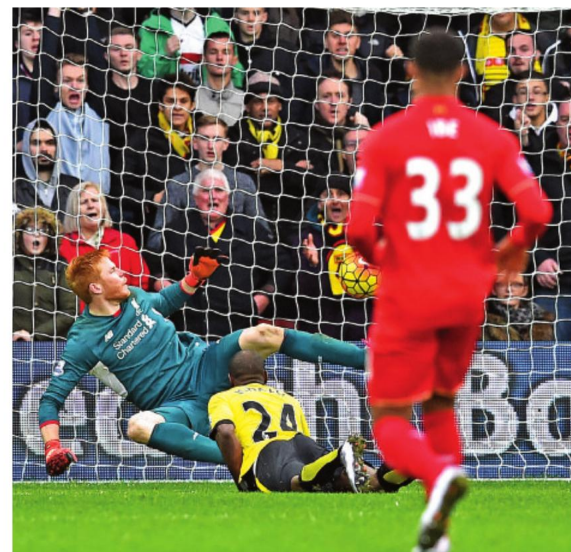
Liverpool slumped to a 3-0 defeat at Watford in the Premier League on Sunday, while managerless Swansea drew 0-0 at home to West Ham at the Liberty Stadium.

Liverpool now trails the Champions League places by five points after its latest loss, while Swansea stayed in the relegation zone after taking a point. Watford took the lead at Vicarage Road after only three minutes, Nathan Ake poking in after stand-in Liverpool goalkeeper Adam Bogdan, replacing the injured Simon Mignolet, dropped a corner.

Odion Ighalo then netted twice, with a composed finish in the 15th before heading in unmarked in the 85th as Liverpool was punished for a stagnant and unimaginative performance. Manager Jurgen Klopp felt his side's reaction to conceding early contributed to the rest of their display.

"We lost our minds after the first goal, we lost our compact formation," Klopp said. "The reaction has to be better. We came here to do something really different than what you saw. Hopefully it is the most disappointing moment in my whole Liverpool FC life from now on." Liverpool failed to offer anything in attack that worried Watford, which played at a higher tempo and with more attacking intent throughout the encounter.

The victory is its fourth in a row in the Premier League and leaves it only a point behind



**Watford's Nigerian striker Odion Ighalo, centre, heads his second goal past Liverpool's Hungarian goalkeeper Adam Bogdan.** BEN STANSALL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Tottenham in fourth, on 28.

"We are fighting a lot, we are very competitive," Watford manager Quique Sanchez Flores said. "I feel completely happy with the performance and the players."

In Wales, Swansea missed some good chances in the first half against West Ham as it failed to claim the victory that would have lifted it out of the relegation zone.

Andre Ayew, Ki Sung-yueng and Jack Cork failed to convert opportunities as Swansea

stayed in the bottom three, two points adrift of safety.

West Ham substitute Enner Valencia almost won it for the visitors late on but his strike was tipped over the bar

by Lukasz Fabianski as Slaven Bilic's side settled for its third straight goalless draw. Swansea caretaker manager Alan Curtis challenged his team to be more ruthless in attack.

"We are lacking a cutting edge," Curtis said. "At least we looked like a Swansea City team again but we need to find something in the final third."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp**  
GETTY IMAGES

**IN BRIEF****Canadian women's soccer team beaten by Brazil**

Janine Beckie scored the first goal but host Brazil responded with three of its own, including two from Monica, for a 3-1 victory over Canada on Sunday in the final of the international women's soccer tournament in Natal.

Monica's first goal of the game, on a header off a corner kick in the 63rd minute, stood as the winner as Brazil remained undefeated in the four-team tournament.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## FIFA

## Bans expected for Blatter and Platini

Judgment day for Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini dawns Monday when FIFA's ethics court is expected to ban the scandal-scarred soccer body's most powerful leaders.

The FIFA president and his one-time intended successor face being kicked out of the world's favourite sport for at least several years over a \$2 million payment Blatter approved for Platini in 2011.

Both deny wrongdoing yet a conflict of interest in managing FIFA money — by agreeing the payment without telling executive committee colleagues — is a likely basis for guilty verdicts in rulings.

Bans of around 10 years are possible, judging by recent FIFA ethics committee sanctions in cases not involving financial misconduct.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**Sepp Blatter, left and Michel Platini**  
GETTY IMAGES



# RECIPE Chickpea and Spinach Stew



PHOTO: MAMA VISENTE

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

Celebrate Meatless Monday with this Spanish-style stew. It will taste even better as leftovers for tomorrow's lunch.

## Ready in

Prep time: 30 minutes

**Serves 6**

## Ingredients

- 2 onions, chopped
- 2 to 3 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 3-inch piece of ginger, grated or minced
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 or 3 big handfuls of baby spinach, washed and stems trimmed
- 2 tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1/2 tsp ground coriander

- 1/2 tsp cayenne (optional)
- 1 x 28 oz can tomatoes
- 1 x 28 oz can of chickpeas
- 1 cup water
- Pinch of salt

## Directions

1. Sauté onions and pinch of salt in oil until they are quite soft, about 10 minutes. Add ginger and garlic and stir for about a minute or two. Add spices and cook for another minute.
2. Add chickpeas and tomatoes. Use the back of a spoon to break up the tomatoes. Add the water and bring to a boil. Add the spinach, reduce heat and simmer for about 15 minutes.
3. Serve over rice and put a dollop of plain yogurt on top.

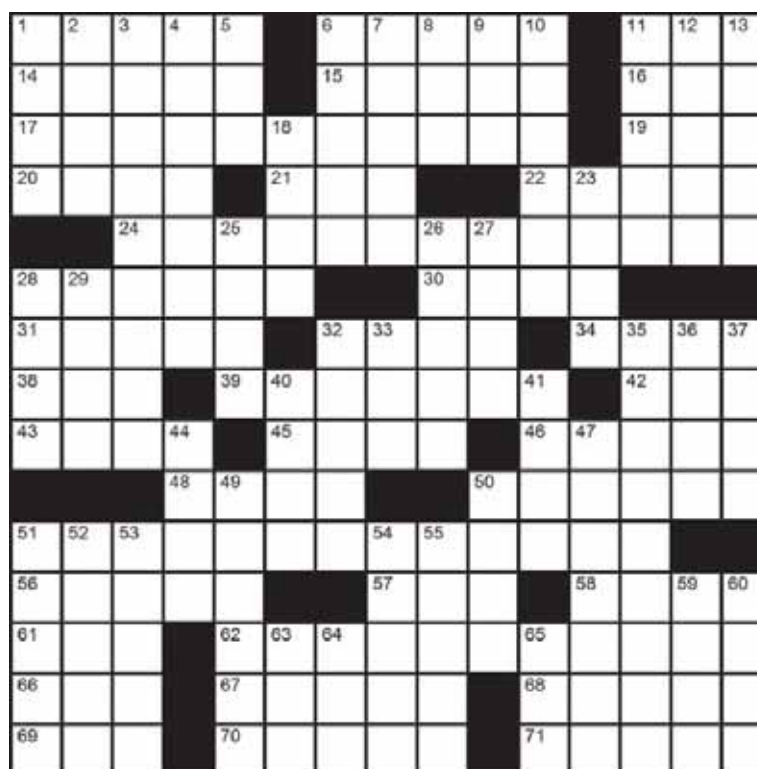
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# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

## ACROSS

1. Robert Redford's "The Natural" (1984) role, Roy \_
6. Ms. Abdul
11. Letter-writer's li'l afterthoughts
14. Veggie burger slice
15. "The table \_ \_!" (Suppertime exclamation)
16. Li'l round rate
17. Ebenezer Scrooge employee: 2 wds.
19. Three vowels
20. Heraldic border
21. Phantom's scare!
22. Edmonton office building, \_ Tower
24. Book lover's Christmas decoration: 4 wds.
28. Ms. Tisdale
30. Calgary's prov.
31. Gladiator's 153
32. Lemony
34. Recipe amt.
38. Mr. Bachman
39. Most close by
42. Him, in Hull
43. Arctic birds, Snowy \_
45. Very, in Verdun
46. Chicago's airport
48. River of Spain
50. Food store merchant
51. Wildlife in Canada...
66. Bitty British band
67. Ice Cube, aka \_ Jackson
68. When it will be five months from December: 2 wds.



62. French log-shaped Christmas dessert: 3 mots
69. East: French
70. Festive fellow, \_ Nick
71. \_-toothed tiger

## DOWN

1. Freight train rider
2. \_ about (Circa): 2 wds.
3. Nova Scotia village

- with a religious sound-ing name: 2 wds.
4. Celine Dion's "The Prayer" duet-tist Andrea
5. Grad-to-be, briefly
6. Mountain-eeer's spike
7. Tie type

8. Show-to-seats, shortly
9. Hawaii garland
10. Certify
11. Cost
12. Sewing kit item
13. Cartoon creature of blue
18. "About \_" (2002) starring

- Hugh Grant
23. Fantastic, in slang
25. Sinn \_ (Irish republican party)
26. Arctic \_ (Northern-hopping critters)
27. Singer/pianist Mr. John's, for short
28. X- \_ knife
29. Cabbage dish
32. Tropical tubers
33. "We Three Kings of Orient \_"
35. British Columbia ski resort, Whistler \_
36. Certain
37. \_ 1 Imports
40. Raison d' \_
41. Ms. Kelly of song
44. Like dry Spanish wine
47. "Gloria, \_ in excelsis!": Latin bit of Christmas song
49. The Hobbit character Mr. Baggins, and namesakes
50. Solvers jot down answers to clues in the Crossword's what?
51. Loose rock at a cliff's base
52. Buckets
53. Grain fungus
54. Greyish
55. Special snack
59. Bring up
60. Leonard \_ , Roy Rogers' birth name
63. Canada's neighbour, commonly
64. Vital life energy
65. ' \_ \_ for Egg-nog

# ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
It's a good time of year for you but it could be great if you stop worrying about what might go wrong and give yourself over to having a fun. Remember that definitions of a good time vary from person to person.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
If someone avoids giving you a straight answer to a perfectly straightforward question, then be on your guard. Take whatever moves are necessary to protect yourself.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
Be open about your feelings. Let those who care about you know you care about them too. You can make it hard for loved ones to know what is going on in your heart or your head.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
Don't overlook details that may seem minor now but could be of major significance later on. Even the smallest of causes can result in major consequences.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
Forget about any setbacks you may have suffered and start looking forward to a time when everything will go right for you again — it won't be long in coming.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
If you get the chance to prove your critics wrong this week then take it but don't let it consume your every waking thought. Life is much too short to waste time arguing with negative people.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
Go where you want to go and do what you want to do this week. No one is going to stop you. You've just got to be free.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
Your view of reality seems to be a bit distorted and that could cause problems if you let the line between fact and fantasy get blurred. Be extra careful where money matters are concerned.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
You have come through a lot in recent weeks but now you can look back and see there were reasons for everything that happened. Put doubts and fears behind you and act as if all things are possible.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
You want to be left alone with your thoughts. Make sure those you live and work with know you need space. If they are not prepared to give it to you then get up and go elsewhere.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
If you are at a loss as to what to do with yourself, get together with some friends and get involved in an activity that means something to you all. Now is the time for group activities of all kinds but especially those which help other people.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
Give your status and reputation some thought now. With a little bit of effort, you can move up in the world rapidly.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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# metroOBITUARIES

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